

Amendments to the Claims:

Cancel claims 1-5, without prejudice.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-5. (cancelled)

6. (new) A rail guide apparatus for suspending and gliding a sliding component along a path comprising:

a first rail and a second rail disposed along side one another on the path so that they are mirror-inverted relative to one another, the first and second rails each comprising:

upper and lower substantially horizontal legs vertically spaced apart from one another, the upper and lower legs extending along the path and being shaped so that, when the first and second rails are positioned along side one another, the upper leg of the first rail contacts the upper leg of the second rail, and the lower leg of the first rail does not contact the lower leg of the second rail so as to define a slot between the lower legs of the rails;

a substantially vertical strut extending along the path connecting the upper and lower legs; and

the upper and lower legs having apertures proximate where the upper leg of the first rail contacts the upper leg of the second rail and proximate the slot between the lower legs;

a leading carriage and a following carriage each carriage comprising:

a gliding component mounted between the upper and lower legs of the first and second rails and between the struts of the first and second rails so as to be capable of gliding along the rails and along the path;

a bolt coupled to the gliding component and extending downward through the slot and capable of attaching the sliding component thereto;

a carrying roller rotatably coupled to the gliding component and oriented so as to roll along an upwardly facing surface of the lower leg of one of the first and second rails; and

a guiding roller rotatably coupled to the gliding component and oriented so as to roll along a surface of the strut of one of the first and second rails facing the other of the first and second rails; and

a centering element received in at least a pair of the apertures so that each centering element is received in one of the apertures of the first rail and in one of the apertures of the second rail.

7. (new) The rail guide apparatus of claim 6, wherein the leading and following carriages each comprise two guiding rollers rotatably coupled to the gliding component and oriented so that a first guiding roller rolls along a surface of the strut of the first rail and so that a second guiding roller rolls along a surface of the strut of the second rail, and wherein the first and second guiding rollers, wherein the first and second guiding rollers are positioned at different heights on the gliding component.

8. (new) The rail guide apparatus of claim 6, wherein the upper legs terminate as a flange at an end of the upper legs which contacts the leg of the other of the first and second rails

9. (new) The rail guide apparatus of claim 7, wherein the upper legs terminate as a flange at an end of the upper legs which contacts the leg of the other of the first and second rails

10. (new) The rail guide apparatus of claim 6, wherein an outer surface of the upper legs of the guiding rails has a groove to which an attachment means can be mounted for mounting the rail to a surface.

11. (new) The rail guide apparatus of claim 7, wherein an outer surface of the upper legs of the guiding rails has a groove to which an attachment means can be mounted for mounting the rail to a surface.

12. (new) The rail guide apparatus of claim 8, wherein an outer surface of the upper legs of the guiding rails has a groove to which an attachment means can be mounted for mounting the rail to a surface.

13. (new) The rail guide apparatus of claim 9, wherein an outer surface of the upper legs of the guiding rails has a groove to which an attachment means can be mounted for mounting the rail to a surface.

14. (new) The rail guide apparatus of claim 6, further comprising a bracket extending along the path and mounted to an outer surface of one of the rails.